

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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INFO EC COLLECTIVE 13

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 3685

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ECIN, EEC, NL

SUBJ: DEN UYL COMMENTS ON DUTCH EC PRESIDENCY

REF: THE HAGUE 3593

1. SUMMARY: IN A RECENT INTERVIEW, DUTCH PRIMIN DEN UYL SAID HE SEES A DIFFICULT TIME AHEAD FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. MOST USEFUL ROLE THAT HOLLAND COULD PLAY DURING NEXT SIX MONTHS WOULD BE TO PUSH FOR FULFILLMENT OF THINGS ON WHICH COMMUNITY HAS ALREADY AGREED RATHER THAN ATTEMPTING MAJOR NEW GROUND BREAKING. EC SUMMITS SHOULD TAKE DECISIONS ONCE A YEAR AND MEET ON TWO OTHER OCCASIONS FOR EXCHANGE OF IDEAS. EDN SUMMARY.

2. DUTCH PRIMIN JOOP DEN UYL WILL CHAIR HIS FIRST EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING JULY 12-13 IN BRUSSELS. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH ANP NEWS AGENCY JULY 1, DEN UYL COMMENTED THAT "HOLLANDS CHAIRMANSHIP IS TO BE DISCHARGED IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AND IS COMMENCING IN A DIFFICULT ATMOSPHERE. FOR THIS REASON, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT BIG NEW IDEAS AND INITIATIVES ARE CALLED FOR BUT RATHER FINISHING THE TASKS WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN". IF POSSIBLE EC-9 SHOULD "ALSO TRY TO MAKE SOME IMPROVEMENT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMUNITY".

3. COMMENTING ON EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETINGS, DEN UYL SAID THAT 1969 AND 1972 SUMMITS WERE WELL PREPARED AND MADE DECISIONS. TREND NOW WAS TOWARD MEETINGS WHICH EXPANDED PERSONAL CONTACTS BUT HE IMPLIED TOOK LITTLE ACTION. COUNCILS NOW REQUIRE "MORE PROFILING" SO THAT SOME ARE INFORMAL WHILE OTHERS WOULD BE THOROUGHLY PREPARED. ONE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO "HAVE ONE EUROPEAN COUNCIL SESSION A YEAR TO MAKE DECISIONS ON THE BASIS OF PREPARATIONS AND DOCUMENTS AND MEETINGS TWICE YEARLY FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS".

4. SPECIFYING AREAS OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN, DEN UYL SAID EC-9 MUST SEEK "A COORDINATED, PURPOSEFUL APPROACH TO UNEMPLOYMENT, ENSURING EMPLOYMENT IN LONG RUN AND CURBING INFLATION". DUTCH WILL WANT TO PROMOTE COORDINATION OF FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES IN LIGHT OF LUXEMBOURG MEETING OF EMPLOYERS, WORKERS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. THE FACT THAT ONLY FIVE EC COUNTRIES REMAINED IN THE "SNAKE" WAS UNDERMINING COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY WHICH IS BASED ON FIXED EXCHANGE RATES.

5. EC COMMISSION: WITH A NEW COMMISSION BEING FORMED THIS YEAR, LARGELY MADE UP OF NEW PEOPLE, TIME IS RIGHT TO TRY TO DRAW UP A CLEAR PROGRAM OF ACTION FOR THE COMMISSION'S FOUR-YEAR TERM OF OFFICE. DEN UYL SAID, HOWEVER THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO ABANDON TINDERMANS REPORT, OR EVEN TO CAUSE IT TO BE IGNORED, BY PROPOSING ENTIRELY NEW THINGS.

5. FOREIGN RELATIONS: DEN UYL NOTED THAT EEC HAD "RIGHTLY EXERTED PRESSURE ON GREEK COLONELS REGIME" AND IN LINE WITH SUCH A POLICY SHOULD WATCH HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A COUNTRY LIKE URUGUAY. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS ONLY MAKING "A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE" AND WOULD NEED MORE FACTS BEFORE VOICING JUDGMENT. NINE SHOULD SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST, HE NOTED THAT A BALANCED STANDPOINT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED AFTER CONSIDERABLE TROUBLE AND THAT TO SHARPEN EC STAND ON MIDDLE EAST COULD BE INTERPRETED AS TILTING TOWARD ONE OF THE PARTIES.

6. COMECON: DUTCH PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD INTENSIFY THEIR DISCUSSIONS ON COMECON PROPOSALS FOR AN AGREEMENT.

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MENT WITH THE EEC WITH A GOAL OF COMING UP WITH A REPLY BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. DUCKING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON COMECON-EC RELATIONS, DEN UYL SAID THAT HE SAW SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN EC-9 STAND AND PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING HELSINKI FINAL ACT.

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